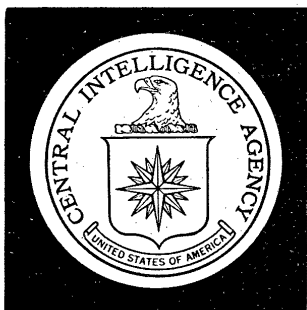




The President's Daily Brief

9 September 1969

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MIDDLE EAST

Yesterday Israeli embassies in Bonn, Brussels, and The Hague were bombed by terrorists, as was the El Al Airline office in Brussels. Damage was slight, but three people were injured. The timing suggests the bombings were coordinated and were the work of a well-organized terrorist group. Because of its past performance and its continuing threats, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine--which has already claimed credit for the embassy bombings--is indeed a prime suspect.

Spokesmen for the Front have announced on a number of occasions that it has begun a worldwide campaign against Israel. The Front is the only terrorist organization that has the US in its sights as well as Israel.

Thus far, the Front has claimed to have sabotaged the Tapline pipeline and to have hijacked the TWA airliner to Syria. Recently the Front has threatened to hijack an aircraft inside US borders.

El Al aircraft have been targets of Front activities three times. One leaving Rome in the summer of 1968 was hijacked to Algeria, one was attacked in Athens in November 1968, and another in Zurich the following February.

The Front also bombed the offices of an Israeli navigation company in London early in August.

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The Front has another reason for exploiting its reputation for successful action: contributions from sympathizers increase after each incident.

LIBYA

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biographic information on five of the nine cabinet members announced yesterday.

Mahmud Sulayman al-Maghribi, Prime Minister

Also minister of finance, of agriculture, and of agrarian reform. Released from prison last week, had been serving a four-year term for inciting riots in 1967 in the wake of the Arab-Israeli war. Before his arrest, was a lawyer with Esso, was on the liaison committee of the oil workers' union, and was a leader of the Libyan branch of the Arab Nationalist Movement--a Marxist, pan-Arab political party.

Salih Masud Abu Yasir, Foreign Affairs

The name is sometimes transliterated as "Buwaysir." Has been a political exile in Egypt since 1955, fleeing charges of complicity in the assassination of one of the king's confidants. Before 1955, was prominent politician and was a deputy in Parliament. Was chairman of Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee in 1952. Owned a newspaper at that time which advocated close ties with the US as a balance to British and French influence.

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Adam Said al Hawwaz, Defense

A lieutenant colonel and member of the Revolutionary Command Council, age 31. In Benghazi last week, was in contact with a US Embassy officer who described him as idealistic and eager to improve the lot of the average Libyan. At that meeting, Hawwaz expressed a desire to cooperate with the US. Seems to be an apolitical nationalist without ties to pan-Arab movements.

Musa Ahmad, Interior

Also a lieutenant colonel, age 32, with 12 years uninterrupted army career. Was a first lieutenant in 1961, made his present rank early last month. [REDACTED]

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Muhammad al-Jadi (also uses al-Qadi), Justice

Age 36, an anti-Communist trade unionist (IFTCU), president of the Libyan workers' union at Wheelus Air Base, date unknown. In 1967, was chief translator for Shell and company's representative in the Petroleum Workers Union. Reportedly a Baath Party member.

VIETNAM

North Vietnamese talks with Kosygin and company Sunday seem to have covered a wider range of topics than the earlier Sino-Vietnamese discussions. That the Paris conference and economic aid were among the subjects discussed is indicated by the presence of Le Duc Tho and Xuan Thuy, and Le

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Thanh Nghi--Hanoi's economic affairs expert. None of these took part in the talks with Chou En-lai.

Delegations from East European and several Afro-Asian countries are en route to Hanoi for Ho's funeral. Except for the Romanians, the contingents from eastern Europe are traveling aboard Soviet aircraft flying the southern route that skirts China. The Romanians are flying via Peking.

A Chinese delegation headed by Vice Premier and Politburo member Li-Hsien-nien arrived in Hanoi Sunday. Since Chou's brief visit is now being billed by the Chinese as a condolence call by a "party delegation," Li's delegation presumably represents the Chinese government. Li has been performing some of the functions of China's foreign minister; next to Chou himself, he would be the most logical candidate to head a state delegation.

BOLIVIA

General Ovando, who has been talking coup for many months, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] stated he planned to take power "sometime this week." [REDACTED]

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No one doubts that Ovando could oust President Siles any time he decides to move. Most military leaders support

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him, and civilian political groups that could oppose him are
too weak to offer significant resistance.

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